

Steffanie Walstra MSW, LCSW

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SUMMARY

- I am a licensed clinical social worker with over 12 years of experience in the mental health field and extensive specialization in psychological trauma, including child sexual abuse, child physical abuse, adult sexual assault, incest, intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and physical assault.
- I maintain a private psychotherapy practice providing both long-term psychodynamic therapy and short-term crisis interventions rooted in evidence-based trauma treatment.
- I have served as an expert witness and consultant in criminal cases involving trauma, abuse, and sexual assault since 2018, having testified in 36 trials and consulted on over 100 legal cases across multiple jurisdictions.
- My expert testimony and consultation services educate legal professionals and juries about trauma responses and offender behavior.
- I have led multidisciplinary teams, developed clinical programming for survivors, and provided invited training on trauma-informed care, sexual abuse education, and behavioral responses to assault and trauma.
- I regularly provide consultation and supervision to clinical staff, therapists, and victim advocates in child abuse and sexual assault cases.

EDUCATION

Master of Social Work (MSW)

University of Denver, 2016

Concentration: Family Systems

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

Michigan State University, 2011

Concentration: Psychology

LICENSURE

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)

- Michigan License: #6801116588
- Colorado License: #CSW09925803

WORK EXPERIENCE

OWNER & PSYCHOTHERAPIST

Steffanie Walstra, LCSW, LLC, Ada, Michigan

2019 – Present

- Provide individual, couples, family, and group psychotherapy for clients ages 12 and older.
- Specialize in trauma treatment, which includes child abuse, sexual abuse, incest, human sex trafficking, sexual assaults in adolescents and adults, intimate partner violence, and physical assault.
- Emphasize long-term psychodynamic therapy to support meaningful psychological and behavioral change.

- Deliver short-term, evidence-based crisis interventions focused on trauma recovery, symptom stabilization, and safety planning.
- Trained in EMDR, Gottman Method, CFTSI, and TF-CBT.
- Utilize Internal Family Systems (IFS), psychodynamic approaches, RADIX bodywork, and somatic therapies.
- Administer validated trauma assessments (TSCC, TSCYC, CSBI).

EXPERT WITNESS AND CONSULTANT

2018 - Present

- Provide expert testimony and consultation in legal cases involving trauma, abuse, and assault.
- Educate attorneys, judges, and juries about offender behavior and victim trauma responses, including disclosure, grooming, memory, fight/flight/freeze reactions, emotional variability, and family dynamics.
- Qualified in multiple jurisdictions throughout Colorado.
- Consulted on more than 100 trials and served as an expert witness in 36 criminal cases.

CONTRACT THERAPIST AND CONSULTANT

2024 - Present

SungateKids, Greenwood Village, CO

- Provide trauma-informed therapy to survivors of sexual abuse.
- Offer supervision and consultation to clinical interns, therapists, and victim advocates.

CLINICAL DIRECTOR

SungateKids, Greenwood Village, CO

2018 - 2024

- Directed individual, family, and group therapy services for youth affected by sexual abuse.
- Supervised interns and staff, developed therapeutic curricula, and coordinated group services.
- Led interagency collaboration, case staffings, and training programs for multidisciplinary teams

FAMILY SUPPORT & CLINICAL COORDINATOR

2012 - 2018

SungateKids, Greenwood Village, CO

- Delivered trauma-informed crisis intervention, assessment, and resource coordination.
- Facilitated liaison work between families and investigative teams.
- Managed funding requests through Victim's Compensation Board.
- Tracked and followed cases throughout the judicial process.

CONTRACT THERAPIST

2016 - 2017

Center for Out of Court Divorce, Denver, CO

- Provided counseling to families and children navigating divorce.
- Designed and facilitated group programs for children ages 6–12.

DIVORCE COUNSELOR AND MEDIATOR

2015 - 2016

Resource Center for Separating and Divorcing Families, Denver, CO

- Conducted intake assessments and mediation sessions.
- Co-facilitated support groups for children and mothers during separation and divorce.

JUVENILE COURT OFFICER

JCO 30th Judicial Circuit Court Family Division, Lansing, MI

2010 - 2011

- Coordinated placement services and maintained court communications.

- Submitted written reports and provided testimony during court reviews.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE EVALUATOR

Substance Abuse Evaluation Services, Lansing, MI

2010 - 2011

- Administered substance use assessments and participated in case staffing.
- Supported operations including documentation, billing, and scheduling.

PROGRAM EVALUATOR

ADP Qualitative Evaluation Team, East Lansing, MI

2010 - 2011

- Coded and evaluated program data for youth impact studies.
- Presented findings in a service-learning academic setting.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Therapy Referral Linkage Agreement Training, 18th Judicial District, Colorado (2013–2024)

Body Safety Education, SungateKids Safe Talks, Colorado (2014–2024)

Behavioral Responses to Sexual Assault, SungateKids, Colorado (2019–2024)

Child Abuse Awareness Month, Aurora Response Team, Colorado (2019)

CONSULT AND SUPERVISION

Therapist Centered Group (TCG) – Ada, MI

Co-led by Dr. Kirk Brink & Dr. Richard Raubolt

Bi-monthly (3 hrs/month) | 2018 – Present

Gottman Method Consultation – Ada, MI

With Kristin Kuiper, LMSW (Certified Gottman Provider)

Weekly (4 hrs/month) | 2024 – Present

Expert Witness Consultation –Denver, CO

With Dr. Sheri Vanino, PsyD

Monthly (1 hr/month) | 2016 – Present